

"We Are Family"

# IT'S FESTIVAL

# TIME AGAIN!!



Hawaii's Okinawan community will come together again this Labor Day Weekend for the annual Okinawan Festival at Kapiolani Park.

The festival, presented by the United Okinawan Association of Hawaii, will feature a variety of foods, arts and crafts, and entertainment by local and Okinawan artists.

Teddy Chinen, better known as local entertainer Teddy Tanaka, said that Okinawa seems anxious to establish a broad business base for its future since this is the 20th anniversary of its reversion to Japan.

"They see the Okinawan Festival as a very good opportunity to extend goodwill to Hawaii and the United States," said Chinen, this year's festival chairman.

A selection of food products and merchandise from Okinawa, as well as Japan, will be available at the Heiwa Dori (Market Street) Tent.

Okinawa will also send artisans, glassware makers, samisen craftsmen and pottery designers to demonstrate their special crafts, Chinen said.

At least 10 members of the Miyako Kuichah (Paranku) are expected to perform at this year's festival, Sept. 5 and 6.

Also, Kina Shokichi and Champuru, a widely acclaimed Okinawan treasure that performed the Kohaku Uta Gassen in Tokyo last New Years, will be here.

"This group will surely exemplify the culture and value of Okinawa's special image in music and dance," Chinen said.

A host of local Okinawan artists will also perform.

The festival is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5, and Sunday, Sept. 6, at the same Kapiolani Park location as last year.

A mini-parade will kick off the festival, and a huge Bon Dance is planned for Saturday night.

The committee is still working toward a fireworks show to close the festival Sunday night.

## Festival Tee Shirts Presale

Tee shirts for the 1992 Okinawan Festival are now on sale either through the Clubs or at the UOA Office. Presale of the Tee shirts will help publicize and generate interest in the event. The special presale is \$8 by cash or \$10 by scrips. All clubs are encouraged to have the Tee shirts available during the summer club picnic events.



## UCHINANCHU

UNITED OKINAWAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII • NEWSLETTER

JULY 1992

Circulation 8,500

Volume # 37

### Various Okinawan Festivals

The following are some of the annual festivals held in Okinawa. In planning a trip to Okinawa, you may wish to inquire about these specific events with your travel agent.

Time	Festival	Location
January	Cherry Blossom	Nago
March (early)	Juri Uma Parade	Naha (Tsuji-machi)
April (mid)	Hama Ori (purify girls)	All Okinawa Beach
May (early)	Haari (dragon boat races)	Naha Port
June (mid)	Haari (dragon boat races)	Itoman/ others
July 7	Tanabata	All Okinawa
July (late)	Honen Matsuri (Tug o war)	Ishigaki Isle
August (early)	Honen Matsuri (Tug 0 war)	All Okinawa
August (late)	Obon (Eisa)	All Okinawa
September	Honen Matsuri (Tug 0 war)	Itoman
September (late)	Usudeku (Dancing at Tombs)	All Okinawa
October 10	Naha Festival	Kokusai St. Naha

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## U.O.A. SPONSORS ART BENEFIT

The United Okinawan Association of Hawaii will sponsor its first art benefit show to support its cultural program and augment the operational fund of the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

The show will present the works of local artists Charles Higa, Edward Higa, Hanae Uechi Mills and Seikichi "Chic" Takara.

The show will be from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, and Saturday, Oct. 24, 1992, at the HOC.

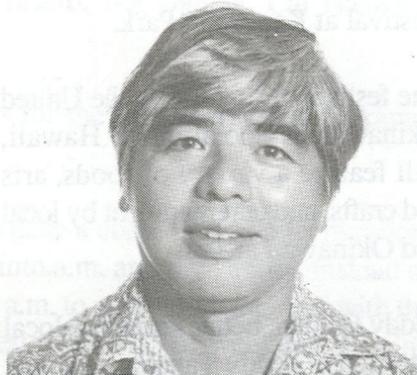
One-third of the proceeds from the sale of all work during the show will be donated to the two non-profit, tax-exempt organizations. All purchases will be closed at the time of purchase and the art work may be picked up Sunday morning.



Charles Higa

Charles Higa captures the beauty and power of nature's wonders and mysteries on a two-dimensional surface. He sees spaces, shapes, sizes, lines, colors and values as an inheritance to human life and loves to capture this character and spirit in watercolors.

Edward Higa finds it rewarding and exciting to form a shapeless lump of clay into a piece of functional art, making practical vases, bowls and platters with such care and skill that each item becomes an aesthetic experience.



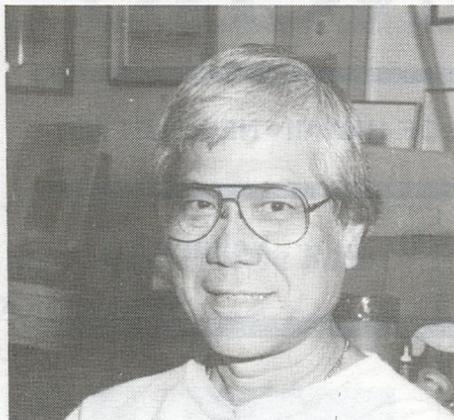
Edward Higa



Hanae Uechi Mills

Hanae Uechi Mills says her art is "characteristically traditional Oriental with a non-traditional touch." She uses porcelain the most, but also works with clay, copper, ceramics and bronze.

Seikichi Takara's art is influenced by Oriental and European artists, but nature inspires him most. He was born where the HOC is now located, graduated from McKinley High School and taught himself the beauty, power and diversity of style he captures in art.



Seikichi "Chic" Takara

### "UCHINANCHU" Advertising Rates

Need to communicate a message to the Okinawan community? Place and Ad in the Uchinanchu.

size	1/2 page 10 1/4 x 7 1/2	1/4 page 7 1/2 x 5	1/5 page 5 x 3 3/4	1/6 page 3 1/2 x 2 1/4	1/8 page 2 1/2 x 2
one issue	\$700	350	175	100	75
four issues	\$2,500	1,200	600	350	260

\* for camera ready Ads, there will be a \$25.00 minimum for production work.

call Michelle Cortez or Alice Njus at 676-5400; Warren Higa at 524-3192

## Haari Festival Deadline July 31st!

The 1992 Hilo Haari Boat Festival sponsored by Hui Okinawa will take entry applications until July 31, 1992. Entry fees for each event are: Haari Boat Paddling Team - \$100; Softball Team - \$50; Volleyball Team - \$30; and Golf - \$35 per person (green fees, cart, awards).

Haari Boat Teams will practice on Friday at the Wailoa park between 8am and 4pm. The Reception Dinner will then be held from 6pm to 9:30pm at the Seven Seas Luau House. (\$15 ,byob) Race Day is Saturday with the procession and opening ceremonies at 9am. The races will take place between 10am and 4pm. The Awards Program will then be held between 6pm and 9pm at the Wailoa Park Pavilion with heavy pupus and entertainment (\$15, byob).

On Sunday, the Softball Tournament will be held at Victor Stadium between 9am and 1pm. The Volleyball Tournament will be at the Hilo Armory between 9am and 1pm. The Golf Tournament will be held at the Volcano Golf Club beginning at 7am. After the Tournaments, refreshments and snacks will be provided at the Wailoa Park Pavilion.

Each UOA Club has been provided with entry blank forms and instructions. All interested persons should contact their club presidents to sign up. If necessary, persons can call the UOA office at 677-4414 or Festival Coordinator Collins Tomei in Hilo at 959-2410.

## Thank You

The donations to help support the *Uchinanchu* continues to grow with each quarterly issue. The United Okinawan Association, the Hawaii Okinawa Center and especially the *Uchinanchu* staff would like to thank you for such tremendous generosity and support. Donations were received from the following supporters during the months of April, May and June 1992.

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## SKETCHES: 1992 UOA STUDY TOUR - of roots and relics

The tour group had waited anxiously for Monday, June 21 to arrive. While most of the group traveled through Osaka to Okinawa, a small contingent traveled through Guam then directly on to Naha, Okinawa.

Most of the travelers had been to Okinawa before. Eighty-two year old Mrs. Kinjo was on her eighth trip. "I enjoy going to Okinawa", she said, "What else am I going to do with my money". She eagerly greeted her nephew, Gary, and his family. Gary was born in Hawaii, served in Okinawa while in the Air Force and now was in his second career as a military customs agent. He spoke warmly of his aunt. "I always want her to stay with me but she insists on staying at the hotel" he sighed. "I guess she doesn't want to be a burden on me which is not the case." Mrs. Kinjo would travel with the group even on the long walks during the tour of southern Okinawa. Despite her years, she was strong, almost hardy, and determined to experience everything the trip had to offer.

Mr. Onaga had never been to Okinawa. A retired contractor, he had wanted to find his roots for a long time but there was always an excuse. Now he had persuaded his good friend and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Oshiro, to cancel their trip to Las Vegas and to take him to Okinawa. Both of them had roots in Tomigusuku and Onaga-san needed Mr. Oshiro's help in finding his family ties. Mr. Oshiro had a brother living in Tomigusuku. A dairy farmer, his brother had a large farm and appeared to be well off. By June 24, Oshiro and his brother traveled to Nago to buy a pine tree for the farm. This gave them the time together they needed. Finally, Oshiro's brother was able to find Onaga's relatives through some old letters left behind by Onaga's father. Onaga visited his family's grave site on June 29th. He seemed pleased.



U. O. A. STUDY TOUR 6-25-1992 IN: 守礼門

Mr. Tamashiro and his wife had never expected the reception given by the City of Nago. At the last minute, he was asked to give the Kampai from the study group to the City. During the sumptuous buffet dinner and the entertainment, he practiced his "speech" while trying to enjoy his Orion beer. The Nago Taiko performance interrupted his concentration but the hula dances by the study group seemed to relax him for a while. When his chance came, he spoke loudly and confidently and in one boisterous yell, led the audience in the final cheer.

Mrs. Ikei had two other generations traveling with her. So many families to meet in such a short time. Her sister lived in Nago and finally met her at the Soba House in Nago. Not enough time to meet the family so they had to skip part of the tour visits. Relatives were constantly dropping in at the Nansei Kanko Hotel in Naha.

On the way back from Nago, "Jimmy" Inamine treated the whole group to a bento lunch at the Ginowan Convention Center. Mr. Shinsato, the Center's director, provided an air-conditioned conference room for the lunch and group meeting. Cookies were provided to everyone by "Jimmy" again and a nice tour of the beautiful three-year old facility was given.

That same evening, the group was treated to the "Peace Music Festival" by the prefectural government. What a performance! Beautiful lighting and

Mr. Funakoshi wasn't certain whether he would be able to meet any relatives on this trip. He knew of cousins living in Okinawa but had made limited contact with them before. He finally met two of them. It was a cordial but tentative meeting. Apparently there had been some problem with family property in Okinawa and the cousins were apologetic. Mr. Funakoshi however, was not concerned with such matters. Okinawa was a trip he wanted to make at least once.

Mr. Kobashigawa and his sister, Mrs. Asato, and their spouses nervously anticipated their trip to Okinawa. They were not expecting the reception they received by the family. Mrs. Kobashigawa was not sure what to expect since she knew little Japanese. But after a brief visit, she was warmly accepted and struggling through the language was not as bad as she anticipated. Mrs. Asato seemed to be enjoying herself the most. Smiling and laughing as she explained, she had relatives to meet on her side and her husband's side as well. Exchanging omeagi gifts kept them busy.

The Tamanahas and the Moromisatos were from Los Angeles. They had learned about the UOA Study Tour from friends. While also visiting with family as well, they were greatly impressed with the reception given by the government officials. On Wednesday, the group visited the Kencho Building, the Prefectural Government Office. Greeted by Mr. Tamanaha, Director of the Executive Office of the Governor, the study group was treated to an educational lecture by Betty Hoffman, on the history of Okinawa textiles. A dance recital by government employees was a pleasant surprise. Everyone was stunned when they learned the beautiful classical Okinawan dance had been performed by a male employee.

sound from a theater that is acoustically designed with state of the art equipment. A three hour performance by popular Okinawan artists, from minyo, jazz, and even Okinawan rock by popular Kina Shyokichi.

Unfortunately, Typhoon Bobbi cancelled the trip down south to Yaeyama. Monday, the whole city was closed up and shuttered while the winds howled at 90 miles an hour. Everyone laughed when some one pointed out that Akira "Typhoon" Sakima had arrived in Okinawa just before the storm. Was this his fourth typhoon in so many trips to Okinawa? Akira was honored by the City of Ginowan during the City's 30th Anniversary Celebration as a City.

This is only a small sampling of the experiences of the 65 people on the tour. But the others fared generally the same. The final days after the storm were cool and clear and were effectively used for last minute visiting and shopping.

The first group left Okinawa by Wednesday. By Thursday, the whole group would depart except for a few who extended their trip. We appear to be a fortunate group of people. We have the beauty and life-style possible only in Hawaii. Yet we can travel a few thousand miles to the land of our ancestors and be greeted with open arms by long-lost relatives who are genuinely caring and loving people. What a blessing.

## Okinawa Government Scholarship Awarded to June Uyeunten

June Yeiko Uyeunten is the 1992 Okinawa Prefectural Government Scholarship recipient. She will be attending the University of the Ryukyus for one year. She is a yonsei, with family roots from Motobu, Urasoe, Kita Nakagusuku and Minami Nakagusuku. Her parents are Carl and Arline Uyeunten, and grandparents Yeichi and Mitsuyo Uyeunten, and the late Robert Joichi and Yone Higa.

June's activities in Okinawan culture are wide and varied. She has been a student of the Nakasone Dance Studio for 19 years, has taken karate, koto, shamisen, and most recently, been a member and instructor of the Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko Club. She is also an active member of the Young Okinawans of Hawaii, serving as culture chairperson for 1991.



June is a graduate of Aiea High School. She attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa for two years, where she was very active in the marching and concert bands, as well as being a counselor at the Atherton YMCA's Frosh Camp program. She transferred to Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., during her junior year, and became very involved with the school's Hawaiian Club. She served as secretary, president and luau chairperson. She graduated with a B.S. in psychology.

After returning to Hawaii, June worked for Hawaii Anesthesia Group and Tripler Army Medical Center for a year before attending graduate school at UH-Manoa. She received her M.P.H. in public health education in 1991. Since then, she has been working for the state Department of Health's Central Oahu Community Mental Health Center as a rehabilitation specialist trainer.

## Applications Being Taken for 1993-94 Okinawa Gov't Scholarships

Applications for two Okinawa Prefectural Government Scholarships are available for descendants of Okinawan immigrants. One is an academic scholarship for the University of the Ryukyus, and the other is a performing arts scholarship for the Performing and Fine Arts University in Okinawa.

In general, the tenure for both scholarships will be from April 1993 to March 1994. The government-sponsored scholarships provide airfare, tuition, books, room and board or reimbursement, and other expenses. The applicants must be high school graduates and between 18 and 30 years of age with some knowledge of Japanese language sufficient to study at the university level or to conduct research. The committee will conduct a written test and interviews to test abilities in this area.

For the Performing and Fine Arts scholarship, we do not have complete details for qualifications and other information from the Okinawa Government as yet because this program was recently established. Therefore, we recommend applicants fill out applications and send them to the committee so we can provide you with more information as soon as we get it from the government.

The written test and interviews will be held on Wednesday evening, Sept. 16, 1992, at the United Okinawan Association's exhibition room. The deadline for applications is Sept. 11, 1992. Application forms will be available at the United Okinawan Association's office. For more information please contact the office at 677-4414 or 676-5400.



## KANEGUSUKU SONJIN KAI

Kanegusuku Golf Club held its fourth tournament of the year on May 24 at Kahuku Golf Course and low net winners were Toshi Shimabukuro with 65 and George Kino with 70. The fifth tournament was held June 14 at Olomana Golf Links and low net winners were Kiichi Oshiro with 70 and Roy Yamauchi with 71. The sixth and seventh tournaments will be 8:24 a.m. August 9 and 10:48 a.m. Sept. 6.

Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai's annual summer picnic has been canceled.

Okinawan Festival scrips are being sold to benefit Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai's treasury. Call Ed Kino at 262-2608 for the Sept. 5 and 6 Festival scrips. Also, volunteers are needed to work on Sept. 6 at Kapiolani Park in the food booth. Contact Ed as manpower will be needed to prepare and serve Okinawa Soba.

Ippei Nihei Debiru to Russel Kino for marching with Kanegusuku's banner in the parade at the Second Anniversary of the Hawaii Okinawa Center, and to Toshi Shimabukuro for being involved in the time capsule event and for his weekly voluntary maintenance of the center grounds.

## Hui O Laulima

Hui O Laulima is pleased to announce the following recipients of its cultural and academic grants for the 1992-93 school year.

Recipient of the cultural grant is:

*Miyashiro Soho Kai* - Okinawan koto school under the instruction of *Bonnie Miyashiro*. The school consists primarily of yonsei (4th generation) students ranging from 8 to 14 years of age interested in learning about their Okinawan heritage through their studies of the koto. The students will be taking a study tour of Okinawa in July where they will also be performing in the Children's Performing Arts Festival in Naha.

Recipients of the academic grants are:

*Joel E. Kobayashi* - Senior at the John A Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawaii, Manoa

*Chana C. Motobu* - Graduate student at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, studying Japanese language and culture.

*Carrie S. Miwa* - Graduate student at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, studying library science.

*Cindy M Nashiro* - Senior at the University of Southern California studying accounting

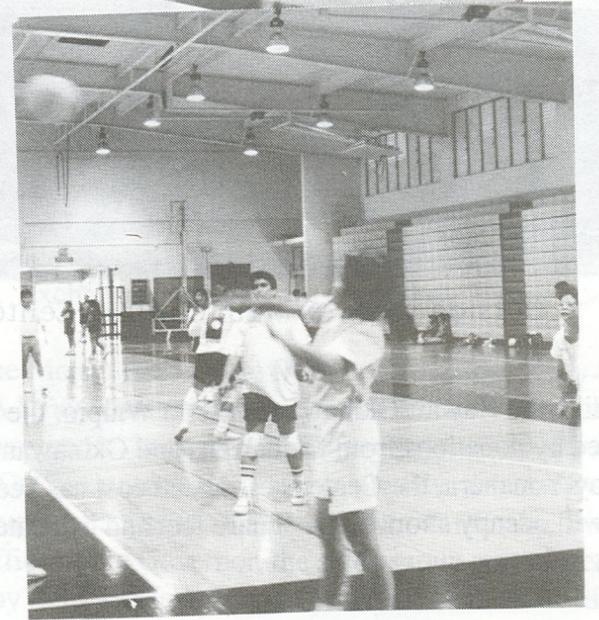
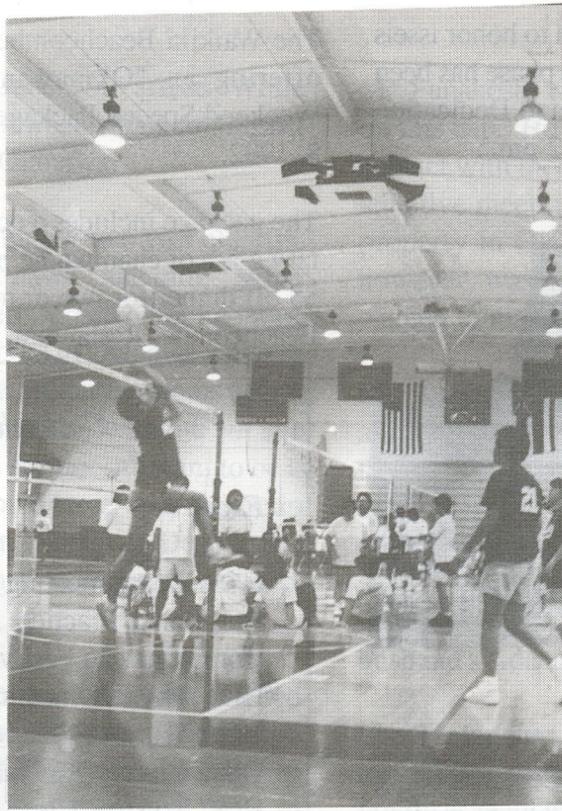
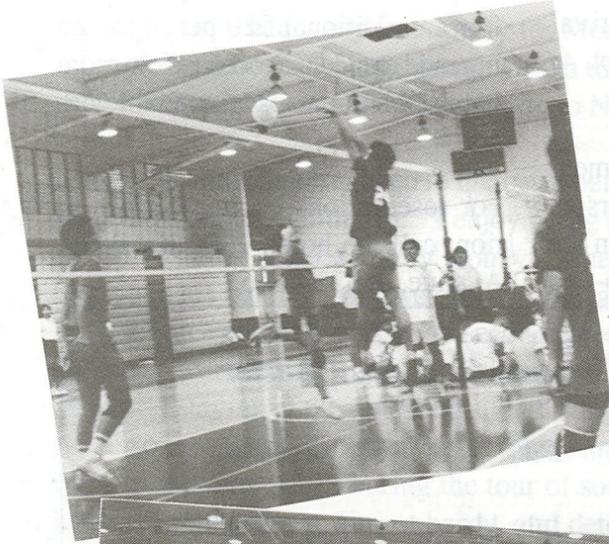
## Uchinanchu

The Uchinanchu is a quarterly newsletter for the members of the United Okinawan Association of Hawaii. Issue dates will depend upon upcoming UOA events but will generally occur on April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 15 of each year. Volunteers are always welcome. Send your name and telephone number to: Uchinanchu Newsletter c/o Hawaii Okinawa Center, 94-587 Ukee Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

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# OTHER UOA EVENTS:

After  
HARDWORK...



Energy...

Concentration...

Determination...

Teamwork...

Sportsmanship...

components that can be clearly seen in these photos.

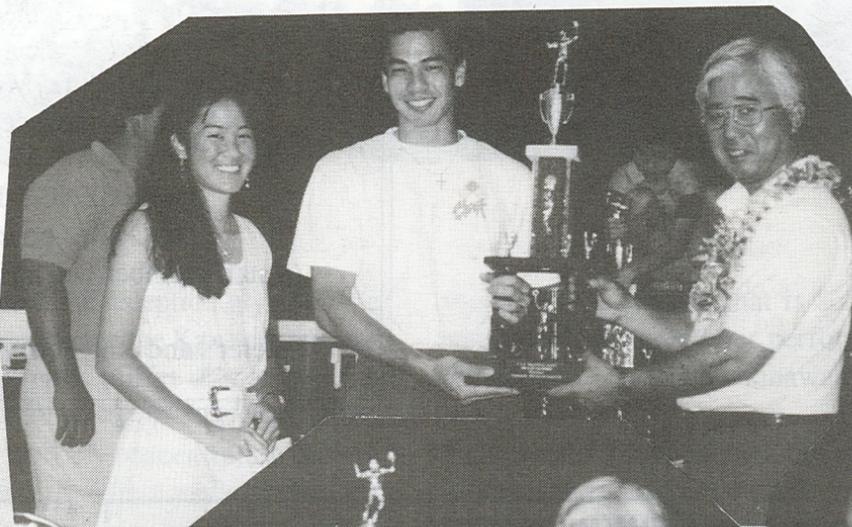
# 1992 U.O.A. Mixed Volleyball League Showcase Review

Comes

# ..... FUN



Smiles...



Laughter...



Prizes...

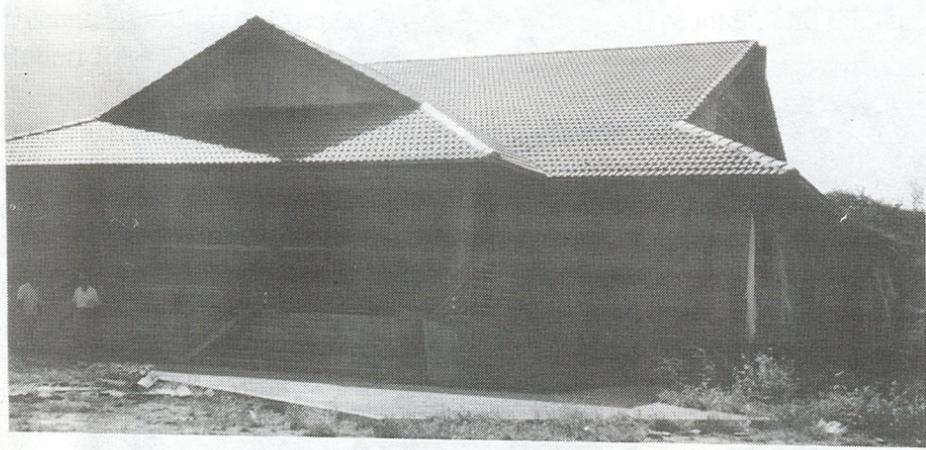


Trophies...

Relaxing and playing can be just as intense as being competitive

## Maui Cultural Center Set to Open August 29th

The Valley Isle will soon have an Okinawa Center of its own to honor isseis and perpetuate the Okinawan culture. The final construction phase has been completed to prepare for the August 29th Grand Opening and Dedication Ceremonies. The ceremony has been schedule to start at 12 pm.



Outside view of Maui Cultural Center

Just like the Hawaii Okinawa Center in Waipio, the Maui Center is being funded by donations from Okinawans and Okinawans at heart. According to Roy Yonahara, the Center's estimated cost has been placed at \$900,000 and will occupy about 5,000 square feet and is located in Wailuku.



Final prep work for the inside almost done

## Need Accommodations During the Festival?

The Waikiki Beachcomber Hotel is offering an "Okinawan Festival Weekend Special Package" Sept. 4-8, 1992.

The package includes a complimentary glass of champagne per person, \$5 off dinner for two or more in the Beachcomber Restaurant, a two-for-

1 coupon to see the IMAX Big-Screen Movie "Born in Paradise" and a special room rate of \$70 per night, single or double occupancy.

For an additional \$20 per night, an upgrade to a deluxe ocean-view room is possible on a space-available basis.

For reservations or more information, call the hotel, 2300 Kalakaua Avenue, at 922-4646.

### Calendar of Events for Third Quarter

Event	Date	Location
UOA Board meeting	July 11	HOC at 7pm
Bon Dance Practice (for Okinawan Festival)	July 15,22,29, Aug 19, 26, Sept. 2	HOC at 7pm
HOC Trustees meeting	July 20	HOC at 7pm
UOA Karaoke Practice	July 28	HOC at 6:30pm
Onna Club HOC Clean Up	July 12	HOC at 8am
HOC Trustees Clean Up	July 26	HOC at 8am
Ginowan HOC Clean Up	August 9	HOC at 8am
Haeburu HOC Clean Up	August 15	HOC at 8am
UOA Exec Council mtg	August 11	HOC at 7pm
HOC Trustees mtg	August 17	HOC at 7pm
Hilo Haari Boat Festival	August 21 to 23	Hilo
UOA Karaoke Practice Maui Cultural Center	August 25	HOC at 6:30pm
Grand Opening	August 29	Wailuku, Maui
Okinawan Festival	September 5 & 6	Kapiolani Pk.
UOA Board mtg	September 8	HOC at 7pm
UOA in Aloha Week Parade	September 19	Waikiki
Ktoman/Shuri UOC Clean Up	September 20	HOC at 8am
Karaoke Practice	September 29	HOC at 6:30pm

### NOTICE

HOC Office Hours: Monday-Saturday 8:30-5 p.m.  
Phone: 676-5400

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:  
HOC after-hours number: 676-7907  
(a staff member will answer if he/she is in the office).

Caterer's and emergency number for guests: 676-0124

## Chiburu Tales



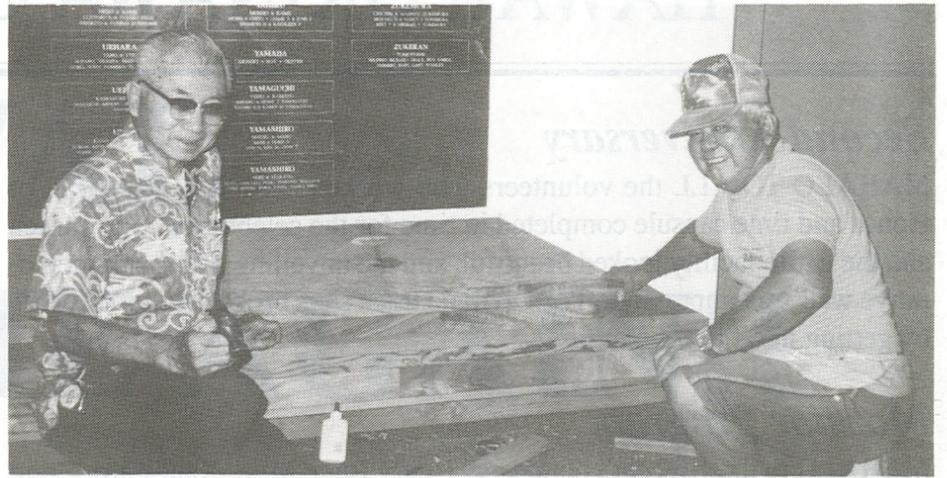
## Thousands Gather to View Wall of Honor

Excitement and heavenly fragrances hung in the air as thousands of blossoms showered the crowd at the second anniversary and Wall of Honor dedication ceremony at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on Saturday, June 20. The event attracted more than five thousand individuals who viewed the wall. All who attended were treated to andagi, tea and cultural entertainment by local performers throughout the day. The unveiling and dedication of the HOC Wall of Honor was a momentous and joyous occasion for many who participated in the building of the center.

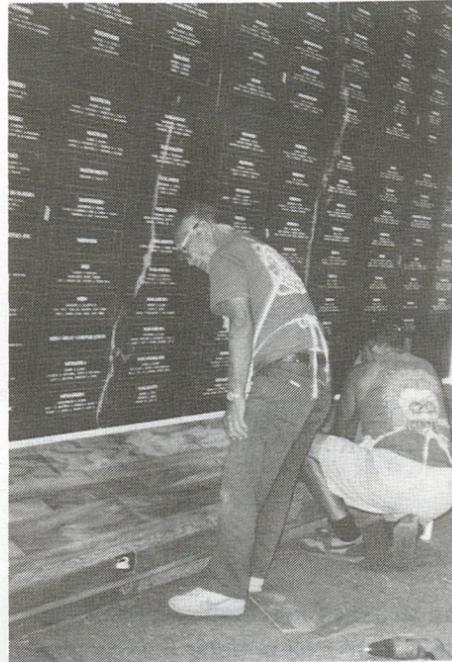
The center was built entirely from donations solicited from nearly 8,000 individuals, families and Hawaii and Okinawa corporations and foundations. Total cost for the center was over \$10 million and the last \$75,000 was paid off at the ceremony to the Bank of Hawaii, First Hawaiian Bank, Central Pacific Bank and City Bank.

With the dream almost complete, the planning committee for the dedication celebration added the final touch in fulfilling the vision in the building of the cultural center dedicated to our isseis. First to be unveiled was the Yeiko and Kameko Higa Building which houses the HOC administrative offices, the UOA office and meeting rooms. Then came the Albert T. and Wallace T. Teruya Pavilion. Inside the Pavilion are three large marble slabs listing the names of families, individuals and businesses who donated at least \$1,000 towards the construction of the center.

Also dedicated at the center was a time capsule that was sealed under two shiisas which guard the entrance to the pavilion. The time capsule was filled with items donated by each of the UOA 48 clubs. The time capsule is expected to be opened in the year 2042.

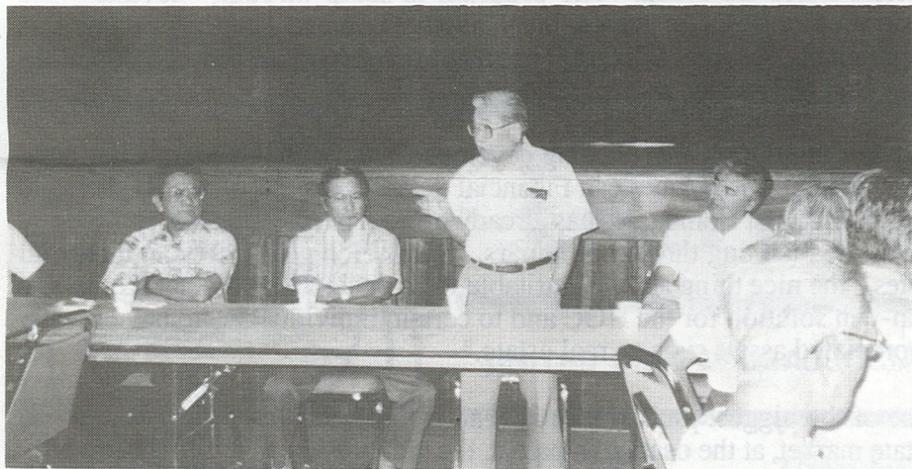
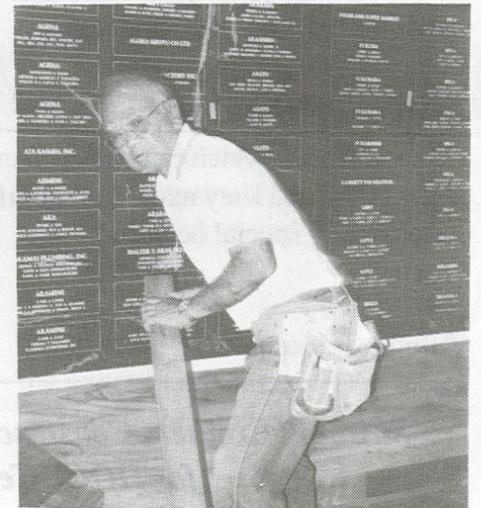


Volunteers Kenji Yamashiro and James Iha enjoy a brief break on the Wall.



Robert Henna finds the right piece for the job.

Many of the volunteer carpenters who framed and mounted the Wall in Koa.



Committee chairman Bob Nakasone, Zippy's Charles Higa, Times' Albert Teruya, and Committee member Ed Kuba thank the many volunteers for their dedicated work.



### Oahu Family Chiropractic Center

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### BACK & SPINE EXERCISER

A portable home use apparatus  
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Exercise your spine by gentle stretching to widen your narrow disc. Exerciser pulls & releases 6 times a minute & less than an inch while lying on your back. To date 270 sold. Phone collect or write for brochure and additional information

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### PLEASE KOKUA!

The production cost for the UCHINANCHU newsletter has escalated due to the increase in circulation, postage and label expenses.. Your contribution to help defray some of the expenses will be greatly appreciated!

Please take the time to make your donation now!!!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sonjinkai \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the UOA Newsletter Fund.

Please send check or money order to:

UOA Newsletter Fund  
Hawaii Okinawa Center  
94-587 Ukee Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797

# HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER



## Second Anniversary

MAHALO TO ALL the volunteers who worked hard to get the Wall of Honor and time capsule completed in time for the celebration. The garden and the entire facility looked beautiful, and the unveiling of the commemorative wall was impressive. The Olympic track stars broke the world record by getting into the act real fast.

## Monitor Program

MAHALO to these recent volunteers: Henry Isara, Miles Kaneshiro, Grant Murata, Ed Toyama, Dan Fong, Dwight Ikehara and Earlyn Koizuma.

And a BIG MAHALO to the special core of dedicated monitors who have been serving the center for more than two years: Mel Gushiken, Ralph Ige, Aki Kakazu, Wayne Miyahira, John Tasato, Jay Ogawa, Cal Nakama, George Nakasone and James Iha.

And mahalo to these back-up monitors for the past year: Isaac Hokama, Warren Higa and Bob Nakasone.

But we still NEED YOU ... We hope to have a corps of 100-plus monitors so that we can split the weekend shifts into a.m. and p.m. shifts, instead of having the same monitors remain from 8 a.m. to after midnight. And with the increase in weekday activities, we need monitors for weekday evening functions.

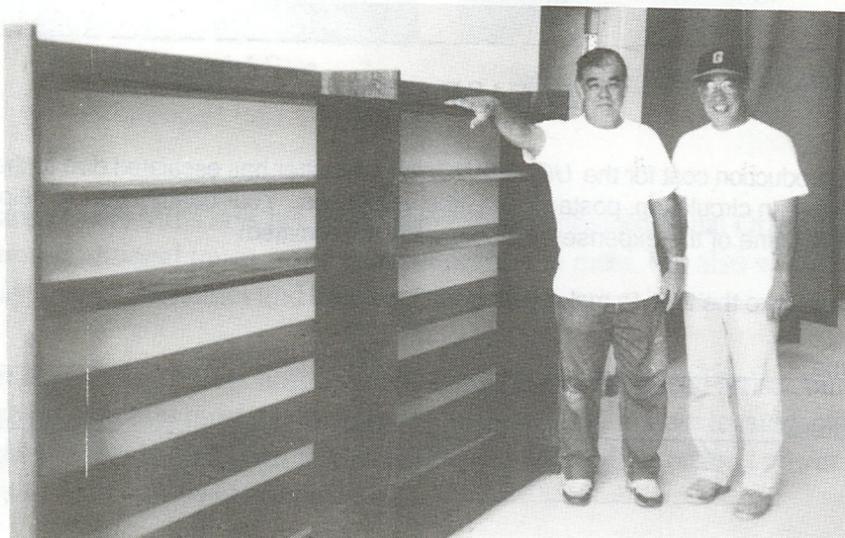
## Gift Shop

New items with the HOC logo include quality ladies' and men's watches, key holders, pens and pencils, golf balls and tees, caps, the popular license plate frames, and beautiful golf and T-shirts. There are also many beautiful, hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind items.

## Gift Certificates

Gift certificates, which can be issued in any dollar amount, are now available at the gift shop. They make a great gift for birthdays, graduations, anniversaries or any special occasion.

### Shiroma Brothers Construct then Donate "Geta Bako" for HOC's Teruya Pavilion



Masa and Yoshi Shiroma of Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai present the HOC with a "geta bako". They constructed the geta bako for the many entertainers who perform onstage at the pavilion.

## Help Keep the Dream Alive

What a great feeling, the Hawaii Okinawa Center has been fully paid off. The donations in cash was over \$9 million and in-kind donations pushed total donations well over \$10 million. At the 2nd anniversary and Wall of Honor Dedication Ceremony held on June 20, the last \$75,000 was paid off. All of this was accomplished in about three years from hard working Uchinachus and Uchinanchus at heart.

However, to continue the dream, we must remember that it also cost money to keep the Center in operation. The Center is still not self supporting. Although the Center generates income from renting its banquet hall, the rental income does not cover all the bills. Although the calendar for the upcoming year is full for weekend rentals, the center continues to be open everyday for visitors. As noted by Bob Asato, Director of the Center, the bulk of operating cost comes from utility expenses.

One way to supplement the hall's rental income is through the creation of an endowment fund. An endowment fund is a portfolio of investments which generates income from interest it earns off of bond holdings, dividends it collects from stock holdings and rental income it receives from real property, if the fund owns any real estate. Only the income generated from the fund would help cover the expenses the center incurs each month. The principal or original amount of the fund would not be touched.

How would the endowment fund be created? Over a million dollars has already been pledged through an insurance program with Occidental Underwriters notes Ed Kuba. The program is setup through "keyman" life insurance policies in which the Hawaii Okinawa Center is named as beneficiary. Another \$200,000 has already been raised through donations says Bob Nakasone.

Another program which is being developed is through the use of Charitable Remainder Trusts. American Financial Services, parent firm of Bishop and American Trust Companies has already offered to educate our community on Estate Planning through seminars. Frank Hong of American Financial notes, "the nice thing about Charitable Remainder Trusts is that it creates a win-win solution for the HOC and to certain individuals who have greatly appreciated assets such as real estate."

One of the biggest problems in Hawaii is that because of our inflated real estate market, at the death of a parent, the kids are forced to sell the property to help pay estate taxes. You never want to be in a position to have a forced sale. The trust allows you to sell the house with no capital gains tax incurred. Additionally, the individual not only gets a tax break for his/her donation, but gets the appreciated house out of his estate thus, avoiding higher estate taxes. Once the house is donated to trust, the house is then sold. The trust then invests the entire proceeds in higher yielding securities to get a higher return for the rest of the donor's life. With the added income, the donor can even buy additional life insurance to benefit the donor's kids free of estate taxes.

Help keep the dream alive! For more information fill out the coupon and send it back to the HOC.

Yes I would like more information on how I can help contribute to the Endowment Fund. I would like more information on:

- How can I make a cash pledge.
- How can I get involved with the Insurance Program already in place.
- How can I create a Trust to benefit HOC and at the same time help my estate tax problem.

Send to:  
Endowment Fund  
Hawaii Okinawa Center  
94-587 Ukee Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797